

CTTAB 2003Minutes

October 14, 2003

Meeting Minutes

**City of Seattle, Board Room, 27th Floor
Key Tower, 700 5th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104**

Board Members Present

Rhonda Allison

Jason Bennett

Michael Daum

Mike Donlin

Shannan Frisbie

Pwint Htun

Rob Jacobs

Damien Koemens

Mike Mullarkey

Robin Oppenheimer

Ann Robinson

Richard Salway (apptd; not yet confirmed)

Jeff Techico

Harriet Wasserman\

Guests:

Susan Gleason

Daniel Hannah

Ann Suter

Absent

Appah Auta

Staff

David Keyes

Jill Novik

Tony Perez

1. Announcements, Agenda Approval; Review of Minutes:

The agenda and minutes were approved as written.

David announced that the Request for Proposals for the Residential Indicators Project will be issued on October 16. He also invited CTTAB members to attend/donate items to the Recreational Technology Coalition (Rec Tec) auction to support community technology labs. The auction will be held on November 8 at Miller Community Center.

Mike Donlin noted that the Seattle School District was awarded \$490,000 from the U.S. Department of Education to expand technology opportunities for 275 students and their families.

A mentor is needed for CTTAB's Get Engaged representative, Sal Salway. Robin Oppenheimer volunteered.

2. **Committee Reports:** Community Technology: Rhonda reported that the committee is developing recommendations on project work plan, justification and budget for the community technology program for 2004. A subcommittee is also reviewing and evaluating TMF projects.

Emerging Technology: Rob indicated that there was a scheduling snafu and asked the committee to meet mid-month at 6 p.m. He also said that he could not chair the committee and suggested that Pwint become chair; she agreed.

CTTAB discussed the purpose of outside speakers, and how and when to schedule them. It was agreed that the committee would schedule speakers in the time before the regular meeting and so that those who wanted to attend could easily do so. Mike Donlin noted that having outside speakers poses potential conflict of interest, and that a speaker would need to be made aware of that and, further, that speaking to CTTAB carries no implications for the future. Robin noted that she was bowing out of this committee.

Communication/governance: Jeff reported that the committee has not met yet; Jason joined the committee. Jeff said that the committee will look at the website/channel interface among other things. Jill invited those interested in watching a live shoot on Friday mornings at the Seattle channel to let her know.

Refranchising: the next committee meeting will be held on October 28 at 5:00 p.m. in Columbia City.

3. **CTO Update:** Rhonda Allison Rhonda reported that all of the finalists were intelligent and talented and it was expected that the Mayor would make his decision this week. She noted that the interview committee worked well together and she appreciated the opportunity to participate. Jill thanked Rhonda for her hard work on the committee.

4. **Presentation:** Emerging Technologies: Pwint Htun
Pwint presented information on applications of cable, including public safety, telemedicine, and IP telephony.

5. **Cable Office: Tony**

Wi-fi: The Cable Office will be scheduling a briefing on this subject with the City Council. The Seattle Channel is working with members of Seattle Wireless to see if Wi-Fi can be used to transmit a signal from Town Hall to the Key Tower. From there the signal can be routed via City fiber to the Seattle Channel production facility in the new City Hall. It remains to be

seen if the IP signals can be converted to video quality for transmission over the Seattle Channel. If this works the City will be able to broadcast events live from Town Hall and demonstrate the effectiveness of Wi-Fi.

Lynne Masters' position will close today.

The Comcast annual privacy notice will be distributed as a separate statement in November; CTTAB members with Comcast should be alert for it. The Cable Office had significant issues with the statement as drafted by Comcast, and we have negotiated an agreement in which they may retain their national policy brochure, but will have a special insert for Seattle that directs our citizens to our laws which supersede those in Comcast's policy. Portland, Oregon also had issues with the statement and Comcast will be changing its national policy.

Public Process for the Needs Assessment: We will be taking a broad, multi-media approach to outreach, using the SeattleChannel, web, and a series of public meetings. We will also shortly be hiring a consultant to conduct a random statistically valid telephone survey and another consultant to assist us with our overall refranchising process.

Ninth Circuit Cable Modem Decision: The Ninth Circuit overturned the FCC decision to classify cable modem service as an information service, ruling that it was part an information service and part telecommunications. The latter subjects the systems to open access rules, among other things. It is not yet clear what the impacts of the ruling are. The FCC has indicated that it plans to appeal the decision.

6. **Seattle Community Access Network:** Ann Suter, Executive Director
Ann presented information about the genesis of the current SCAN, the board, and statistics about the quantity of original programming. She indicated that the SCAN is working on creating itself in a broader context as a community media facility.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.